***PRESIDENT :** The Chief Secretary may explain that.

**RAJYASEVAPRAVINA M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR** (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Sir, one or two instances having been brought to the notice of Government they ordered that it should not take place hereafter.

**MR. MURUKKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN** (*Trivandrum cum Neyyatinkara*) : Sir, the Assistant Commissioners made so many appointments against the rules, and this matter was brought to the notice of Government during the budget session last time and the Excise Commissioner assured the House that he will enquire into the matter. I wish to know whether any enquiry has been made by the Excise Commissioner?

**MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN :** Sir, that took place not during the last budget session but on a previous session this year.

**MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR :** May I know from the member whether in his opinion such appointments are made purposely by the Assistant Commissioner?

**MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN :** I do not think it is so.

*Scarcity of pure water on the Vembanad shores.*

82. * **MR. K. R. NARAYANAN** (*Vaikom cum Kottayam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the people living on the shores of the lake from Vaikom to Kumarakom are put to much hardship owing to scarcity of pure water ; and

(*b*) whether any measures to remedy the situation are being considered by Government?

**MR. J. W. CHACKO :** (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government are considering the desirability of providing tube wells in such places as a general measure and are, as a test, taking up the sinking of some tube wells in Kuttanad area.

*Pepper market.*

83. * **MR. K. R. NARAYANAN** : Will the Government be pleased to state the *nirak* rate of pepper during the years 1110 to 1116 and the duty imposed thereon in each year?

**MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN :** A *statement containing the information is laid on the table.

**MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :** ൧൧൧൦-ൽ ഉർവ്വ രൂപ കരുമുളകിന്റെ വിലയായിരുന്നപ്പോഴും ൧൧൧൯-ൽ ൈ രൂപ വിലയായിരുന്നപ്പോഴും കരുമുളകിന്മേൽ ഡ്യൂട്ടി ൧൦ രൂപയാണ് നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ ഡ്യൂട്ടി നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതെങ്ങനെയാണെന്നു പറയുവാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

**MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN :** അത് സ്ഥിരമായ ഡ്യൂട്ടിയാണ്. കമ്പോളവിലയനുസരിച്ചു മാറപ്പെടാവുന്നതല്ല.

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* *Vide* Appendix III.—page 267.

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